

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TANANA 01792 060749Z

14

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 MC-02

XMB-02 L-03 IGA-02 ACDA-07 /066 W

----- 126988

P 061017Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8574

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 1792

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PDIP EINV MA US

SUBJECT: GDRM INTENDS TO BUY TWO HERCULES

REF: (A) STATE 273291, (B) TANANARIVE 1626, (C) STATE 268206

1. WISH TO ASSURE DEPARTMENT THAT WE REMAIN AS SKEPTICAL AS EVER ABOUT GDRM MOTIVES FOR PURCHASING TWO HERCULES, AS WE STATED REF (B) AND IN EARLIER CBRRESPONDENCE WITH AF/E. WE HAVE ALL ALONG KEPT PUTNAM INFORMED OF OUR SKEPTICISM ABOUT GDRM MOTIVES, WASHINGTON'S VIEWS AS DESCRIBED REF (C), AND UNCERTAIN STATE OF US-GDRM RELATIONS WHICH WE ASSUME WILL PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE VIS-A-VIS ISSUANCE OF EXPORT LICENSE.

2. "GUNG HO" IS TOTALLY INACCURATE. HOWEVER, UNTIL DEPARTMENT INFORMS US THAT USG TAKES NEGATIVE VIEW RE ISSUANCE OF EXPORT LICENSE, WE FEEL WE MUST PROVIDE SOME MINIMAL ASSISTANCE TO PUTNAM. WE HAVE NOT, ON THE OTHER HAND, LED HIM NOR GDRM OFFICIALS DOWN GARDEN PATH, HAVING EXPLICITLY JUXTAPOSED POTENTIAL SALE WITH US-GDRM RELATIONS, INCLUDING MY MENTION OF IT TO RATSIRAKA'S DIRECTOR OF CABINET.SHEINBAUM

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Message Attributes

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